



Office of the Sheriff

MONROE COUNTY
"ONE TEAM"



Sheriff Todd K. Baxter

Undersheriff Korey K. Brown

130 SOUTH PLYMOUTH AVENUE, ROCHESTER, NY 14614

A Celebration of Life: In memory of Decorated WWII Veteran and Monroe County Sheriff's Office Eldest Retiree, Jail Bureau Deputy James Cassidy.

Rochester, NY (July 25, 2023) - The Monroe County Sheriff's Office and the Cassidy family are saddened to announce the passing of World War II veteran and MCSO's eldest retiree, Deputy James "Jim" Cassidy. Deputy Cassidy died on Thursday, July 20, 2023 at 97 years young following a long, brave health struggle.

Mr. Cassidy was a decorated WWII Army veteran, serving as a rifleman with the Third Army under General George Patton. He joined the Army in 1944 at just 18 years old. Mr. Cassidy was seriously injured during the "Battle of the Bulge," to include the "50 Mile March." He spent ten months recovering in Army hospitals. Following an honorable discharge in 1945, Mr. Cassidy received two purple hearts for injuries he sustained in two separate instances in combat. He also received other commendations, including the Bronze Star.



Following his service to country, Mr. Cassidy proudly served his community, joining the ranks of the Monroe County Sheriff's Office Jail Bureau in 1952. Deputy Cassidy would go on to serve 26 years with MCSO. Affectionately known as "The Harmonica Man," he would share his gift of music with everyone he met, including incarcerated individuals inside the Monroe County Jail. Throughout his life, if Jim saw someone struggling mentally or physically, he would pull his harmonica out of his pocket and play for them, lifting their spirits.

In 2021, MCSO had the pleasure of sharing Deputy Cassidy's story on our social media platforms in a four-part series, entitled "A Salute to Service." He leaves behind a large loving family, whom we are honored to have met.

Mr. Cassidy will be laid to rest later today in White Haven Memorial Park, following a mass at St. Pius Tenth Church at 1:00 p.m. Thank you for your service to country and community, Sir. Rest in eternal peace.

###

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR: Amy Young
Monroe County Sheriff's Office
130 S. Plymouth Ave.
Rochester, NY 14614
(585) 441-2605
MCSOCommunications@monroecounty.gov



RESPECT • INTEGRITY • TEAMWORK • EXCELLENCE
WWW.MONROECOUNTY.GOV/SHERIFF